

# **The Comprehensive Opioid Management and Bundled Addiction Treatment (COMBAT) Act of 2018**

## ***Section-by-Section Summary***

### **Section 1: Short title**

### **Section 2: Medicare Coverage of Certain Services Furnished By Opioid Treatment Programs**

This section would add opioid treatment programs (OTPs) and the medication-assisted treatment (MAT) they provide to the Medicare Part B benefit for beneficiaries suffering from opioid use disorder (OUD). Covered services would include: initial intake and assessment; integrated and ongoing psychosocial and medical treatment for OUD; urinalysis; medication administration, dispensing, and monitoring; screening; and FDA-approved medication used as part of MAT.

This section also states that an OTP must be certified and accredited to be eligible to bill Medicare and defines MAT as “the use of medications, in combination with counseling, behavioral therapies, and toxicology testing, to provide a comprehensive approach to the treatment of substance use disorder.”

Section 2 would also establish a Medicare bundled payment rate for MAT in the OTP setting. OTPs would be paid for the services and medications that a beneficiary receives in accordance with a weekly (for MAT with methadone or buprenorphine) or monthly (for MAT with naltrexone) capitated rate. The bundled rate would be based off of the billing codes that were used to establish the TRICARE OTP benefit in 2017. Medicare would pay OTPs the greater of the state Medicaid rate or the TRICARE rate in the county where services were provided. Given that patients suffering from OUD are less likely to pay coinsurance, the payment rate would be set at 120 percent of the country rate, ensuring that OTPs receive at least the Medicaid or TRICARE payment for caring for Medicare beneficiaries.

This lifesaving benefit will be covered no later than January 1, 2019.